

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 31, 2006.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 11-18, 27-32, 39 and 40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2004/0019584 to Greening et al. (“Greening”).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 3 and 4. As indicated by the Examiner, claim 4 would be patentable over the prior art if rewritten to include the limitations of the base and intervening claims, claims 1 and 3. Since amended claim 1 contains the limitations suggested by the Examiner, claim 1 is patentable over Greening. Claims 11-16, which depend from claim 1, are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claims 3 and 4 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 19 and 20. As indicated by the Examiner, claim 20 would be patentable over the prior art if rewritten to include the limitations of the base and intervening claims, claims 17 and 19. Since amended claim 17 contains the limitations suggested by the Examiner, claim 17 is patentable over Greening. Claims 27-30, which depend from claim 17, are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claims 19 and 20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

With regard to claim 2, Greening does not disclose or suggest the claimed features. Greening discloses a community directory searchable from a mobile station based on a user entering a location entity (paragraphs [0108]-[0110]). The system of Greening may even prompt the user to enter location information (Abstract). Greening does not, however, disclose or suggest at least a first memory section which stores a first table data including a relationship between a plurality of telephone numbers and a plurality of hot spots, wherein each of said plurality of telephone numbers corresponds to one of said plurality of hot spots, said plurality of hot spots is in or near a place corresponding to one of said plurality of telephone numbers, wherein said search section searches said hot spot based on said first table data, as recited in claim 2.

Since Greening fails to disclose or suggest the claimed features, claim 2 is not anticipated by Greening and is therefore patentable. Claims 18, 32 and 40 contain features similar to the features recited in claim 18 and are therefore patentable for similar reasons.

Claims 31 and 39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering these rejection moot.

Claims 3, 5, 9, 10, 19, 21, 25, 26, 33, 35, 41 and 43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over Greening in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,922,634 to Odakura et al. (“Odakura”). Applicants traverse these rejections.

As noted above, Greening fails to disclose at least a first memory section which stores a first table data including a relationship between a plurality of telephone numbers and a plurality of hot spots, wherein each of said plurality of telephone numbers corresponds to one of said

plurality of hot spots, said plurality of hot spots is in or near a place corresponding to one of said plurality of telephone numbers, wherein said search section searches said hot spot based on said first table data, as recited in claims 3, 5, 9, 10, 19, 21, 25, and 26 by virtue of their dependencies. Odakura does not cure the above-noted deficiencies of Greening.

The Examiner relies on Odakura to disclose hot spot location data including an area code and a zip code. Odakura does not, however, disclose or suggest the above-noted features deficient in Greening. Even if one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made had been motivated to combine the references, the combination would still not result in the claimed invention.

For at least the above reasons, claims 3, 5, 9, 10, 19, 21, 25, and 26 are patentable over the combination of Greening and Odakura.

Claims 33, 35, 41 and 43 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering these rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 4, 6-8, 20, 22-24, 34, 36-38, 42 and 44-46 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have rewritten in independent form claim 6 to incorporate the features of claims 1 and 5, claim 22 to incorporate the features of claims 17 and 21, claim 34 to incorporate the features of claims 31 and 33, claim 36 to incorporate the features of claims 31 and 35, claim 42 to incorporate the features of claims 39 and 41, and claim 44 to incorporate the features of claims 39 and 43, as suggested by the

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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Examiner. As indicated by the Examiner, these rewritten claims contain patentable subject matter and are therefore allowable. Claims 8, 37, 38, 45 and 46, which depend from one of rewritten claims 6, 34, 36, 42 and 44, are allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

Claims 5 and 21 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

As indicated above, independent claim 1 was amended to include the patentable subject matter of claim 4, and claim 17 was amended to include the patentable subject matter of claim 20. Since claims 1 and 17 are patentable, claims 7, 23 and 24 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

Conclusion

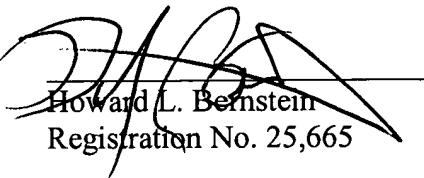
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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